

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-37 are pending in this application. In the Office Action<sup>1</sup> mailed January 25, 2007, the Examiner rejected claims 27-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,136,374 to Kompella ("Kompella") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,662,198 to Satyanarayanan et al. ("Satyanarayanan").

Applicant thanks the Examiner for withdrawing the previous rejections and indicating that claims 1-16 and 37 are allowed. Applicant assumes claims 17-26 are also allowed because the Examiner did not reject these claims.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection of claims 27-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kompella in view of Satyanarayanan. The Examiner concedes that Kompella fails to teach or suggest each and every element of the claims and additionally relied on Satyanarayanan. Office Action at 4. However, as noted in the Reply filed October 25, 2006, Satyanarayanan does not constitute prior art. Reply at 20. Applicant's filing date is April 23, 2001. Satyanarayanan was filed on August 30, 2001, after Applicant's filing date. Accordingly, Satyanarayanan cannot be relied on by the Examiner to reject Applicant's claims.

Accordingly, because Satyanarayanan does not constitute prior art, no prima facie case of obviousness has been established with respect to claims 27-36. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 27-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kompella in view of Satyanarayanan.

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<sup>1</sup> The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicant declines to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

Moreover, Kompella's actual filing date of May 24, 2001 is after Applicant's filing date of April 23, 2001. Therefore, to support a rejection of Applicant's claims, Kompella's priority application (filed March 19, 2001) must contain support for every disclosure relied on by the Examiner. Should the Examiner provide a new rejection relying on Kompella, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner identify specific teachings in Kompella's priority application 60/277,112 that support the Examiner's rejection.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

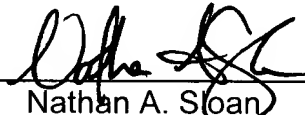
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: April 9, 2007

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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